32692

Customer Number

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: MATSUOKA, HIROYUKI

Application No.: 10/576844 Confirmation No.: 7469

Filed: September 22, 2004

Title: CONNECTOR AND CONNECTOR SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449, citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application, or within three months of entry into the national stage, or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.

Fees

☒ It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

☐ The fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) will be paid at the time of EFS-Web submission. In the event fees are not or cannot be paid at the time of EFS-Web submission, please charge any fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 which may be required to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

☐ Please charge the fee provided in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Copies of Documents

Copies of any cited foreign patents, foreign publications, non-patent literature documents, and any pending U.S. applications filed before June 30, 2003, are enclosed. Copies of any pending U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003 that can be accessed on the USPTO's IFW system are not enclosed as per USPTO Waiver dated September 21, 2004. Copies of any U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications are not enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

May 16, 2007

Date

By: Melanie Gover

Melanie G. Gover, Reg. No.: 41,793
Telephone No.: 512-984-4308

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO (modified)		Application Number	10/576844
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Page 1 of 1		Filing Date	September 22, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Matsuoka, Hiroyuki
		Confirmation Number	7469
		Attorney Case Number	59138US004

U.S. Patent Documents

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Document Number — Doc. Number-(Kind Code if Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	US- 4,632,486	12-30-1986	Hasircoglu	
	A2	US- 4,464,002	08-07-1984	Suzuki et al.	
	A3	US- 5,902,146	05-11-1999	Hanami	
	A4	US- 6,039,611	03-21-2000	Yang	
	A5	US- 6,217,344	04-17-2001	Saito et al.	
	A6	US- 6,358,083	03-19-2002	Kraft	
	A7	US- 6,419,502	07-16-2002	Trammel	
	A8	US- 6,648,697	11-18-2003	Yang	
	A9	US- 6,905,366	05-05-2005	Yang	
	A10	US- 7,070,444	01-06-2005	Sato et al.	

Foreign Patent Documents

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document — Ctry. Code	Number-KindCode (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation (Check if yes)
	B1	EP	1337009	08-20-2003	Kobayashi		
	B2	JP	2002-025667	01-25-2002	Isao		
	B3						
	B4						
	B5						
	B6						
	B7						

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Exam. Init.*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	Translation (Check if yes)
	C1		
	C2		
	C3		

*Examiner:	Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Information Disclosure Statement)